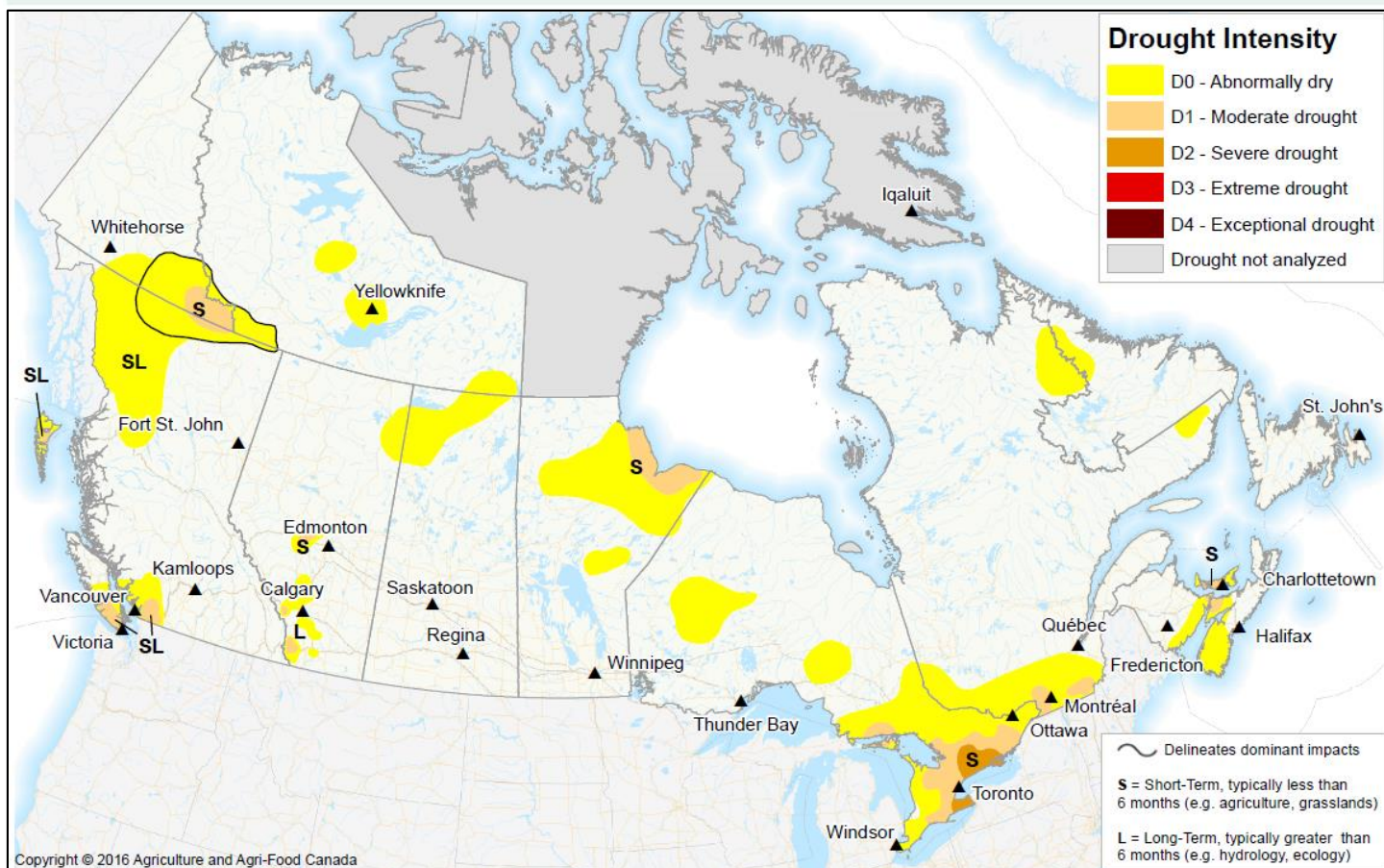


Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of July 31, 2016



Overall conditions across Canada for the month of July could be characterized as stormy, with some areas of persistent drought remaining. Across the West, southern portions received substantial rainfall (upwards of 150-200 mm in some places), leading to vast improvement overall. Southern Ontario, however, continued to experience dry conditions, with further drought developing in the Niagara region and persisting throughout much of the rest of the region. The remainder of the country saw minimal changes.

Pacific Region (BC)

D0 (Abnormally Dry) conditions in the northwestern corner of British Columbia remained in place given the moderate to high risk suggested by NRCAN's Fire Weather Drought Code. However, precipitation values compared to normal indicated some relief for the region; as such,



the D1 (Moderate Drought) patch was removed and D0 was reduced. A pocket of D1 was designated for the northern edge of B.C., into the southeastern corner of Yukon, given the up to 75 mm below normal precipitation received in the past three months. A small area of D1 conditions on the mid-eastern portion of Haida Gwaii also remained for the month of July. Conditions generally improved throughout southern B.C. with a small pocket of dryness over parts of Vancouver Island being the exception to this. As well, longer-term dryness still remained in the area according to precipitation data from April 1st to current. Given these conditions, pockets of drought persisted, but D0 and D1 conditions on Vancouver Island were pulled back to the southern half. D0 in the interior region of the mainland was also eliminated as precipitation was shown to be in the 60th to 80th percentile. D1 conditions remained in the lower mainland between Surrey and Hope.

Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)

Conditions across the Prairies improved overall for July. The area of D2 (Severe Drought) surrounding Calgary was alleviated by very high rainfall received for the month (upwards of 150 mm in some areas). A few D0 pockets were left scattered around Calgary, with two small D1 patches around Kananaskis Village and Maycroft due to very low precipitation received in the past six months compared to normal. A D1 pocket emerged just west of Edmonton due to short term dryness, with a lack of precipitation only seen once in up to 25 years in the past two months. With multiple heavy storms hitting southern Saskatchewan throughout July, dumping between 115 – 150% of average precipitation in the previously dry areas, all drought conditions were alleviated. In the north, however, the band of D0 conditions spanning from NWT, through Uranium City towards just north of Fort McMurray still remained, though slightly reduced. The trend of improvement carried into northern Manitoba, where dry conditions were pulled back eastward. A patch was left northeast of Lake Winnipeg, however, due to a lack of precipitation locally. The D1 surrounding Port Nelson was also reduced but still remained due to the region receiving 50 mm less than average precipitation over the past three months.

Central Region (ON, QC)

Much of southern Ontario continued to experience patches of significant drought in July; the majority of the agricultural region was impacted by Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions for yet another month. As of July 24th, nearly 55% of the agricultural area in Ontario was impacted by Very Low to Record Low precipitation since April 1, 2016, affecting more than 17,000 farms and close to 1.5 million cattle. While certain pockets received good precipitation over the past month helping to alleviate drought concerns, such as west of Ottawa and west of London, a large pocket surrounding Lake Ontario remained in Moderate Drought. One pocket of D2 remained northeast of Toronto, with another pocket developing around the Niagara region, given recent depreciating conditions. Drought conditions in northern Ontario only shifted slightly, with some areas experiencing drier conditions while others improved. According to satellite-derived data indicating adequate precipitation, the large area of D0 across much of

northeastern Ontario was removed. Some pockets of D0, however, were added around Williams Lake and Hornepayne because of recent dry conditions developing. As similar to June, much of the dry conditions in southern Ontario carried over into southern Québec; the area of D0 encompassing much of southern Québec, along with a small pocket of D1 west of Montréal, persisted into July as a result. A pocket of D1 around Sherbrooke also emerged following yet another dry month, along with the persistent lack of precipitation in the past six months.

Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)

Across the Atlantic region, D0 conditions from June continued into July. P.E.I and parts of northern Nova Scotia experienced particularly dry conditions and as a result, a patch of D1 emerged in the area. Another consequence of the dry conditions resulted in the slight expansion of the previously depicted D0 across the region.

Northern Region (YT, NT)

Changes to the drought conditions across areas of northern Canada were fairly minimal for the month. Conditions surrounding Yellowknife stayed fairly consistent to the previous assessment. However, a pocket of dry conditions was identified just north of this area, resulting in the creation of a D0 pocket. As well, satellite-derived data indicated that the border region between the Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories continued to depreciate, leading to the creation of a pocket of Moderate Drought (D1).